GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2974
ANSWERED ON:06.12.2007
INCIDENTS OF LOOTING OF PASSENGERS IN THE TRAINS
Kaushal Shri Raghuvir Singh

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways are aware of the incidents of looting of passengers in the trains by offering them poisonous items;

(b) if so, the details of such incidents reported during the last three years and the current year, Zone-wise;

(c) the preventive measures taken / being taken by the Railways to check such incidents;

(d) whether the railways have also sought the assistance from State Governments to combat such crimes; and

(e) if so, the response of the State Governments thereto?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU)

(a) to (e) A statement is attached.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2974 BY SHRI RAGHUVEER SINGH KOSHAL TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 6.12. 2007 REGARDING INCIDENTS OF LOOTING OF PASSENGERS IN THE TRAINS.

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b): A zone-wise statement showing the number of drugging cases reported in trains over Indian Railways during the year 2004, 2005, 2006 and 2007 (upto September) is as under:-

Railways	Number of cases reported			
	2004	2005	2006	2007(upto Sept.)
Central	106	45	56	59
Eastern		23	51	23
East Central	39	24	49	17
East Coast	10	6	11	19
Northern	90	60	47	52
North Central	55	42	24	35
North Eastern	13	6	7	41
Northeast Frontier	32	37	46	58
North Western				
Southern	16	28	17	20
South Central	25	37	72	28
South Eastern	62	81	77	71
South East Central	4	6	7	7
South Western	2	5	5	13
Western	54	29	28	40
West Central	53	10	10	8
TOTAL	561	439	507	491

(c): Following preventive measures are being taken to prevent incidents of drugging cases:-

1. All Thana In-charges have been instructed to conduct drives against persons indulging in drugging offences in trains, platforms and passenger areas.

2. The train escorting parties are being briefed to remain extra vigilant in trains in the affected stations/ sections.

3. All out efforts are being made in coordination with GRP/ City Police to collect and share criminal intelligence for the apprehension of the offenders.

4. Regular announcements are being made through Public Address System and use of loud hailers at the general coaches of the trains and during line bandobast to sensitize passengers to avoid purchasing/ accepting eatables from unauthorized hawkers & unknown persons while traveling by train or at the platform.

5. Posters/ Pamphlets with cautionary indication against the menace of drugging are being circulated and pasted at prominent places at the station and in the trains to create awareness amongst the traveling passengers.

6. Regular coordination meetings are being conducted with local police and GRP for better exchange of intelligence and formulation of joint strategy to contain the menace.

7. Videography of persons standing in queue for boarding general coaches are being done to identify the offenders in cases of such incidents.

8. Dossiers of culprits involved in the drugging cases have been circulated to all Thanas and provided with escorting staff.

9. Affected/vulnerable stations and trains are being identified and special attention is being paid in the identified trains/stations to avoid recurrence of such cases.

Specific guidelines have also been issued by the DG/RPF for preparation of appropriate plans to effectively control the incidents of drugging on Railways. Anti drugging cells are being set up at each Zonal Railways Hqrs. under the command of a Gazetted Officer, which will examine in details each and every case of drugging reported and take all preventive measures.

(d) & (e): The maintenance of law and order is a State subject and powers to investigate in IPC crimes are vested with Police. Prevention and detection of crime is constitutional responsibility of the State Governments. Accordingly, drugging cases are registered by the Government Railway Police for investigation and prosecution and the Railways have to largely depend on them for control of this crime. However, to provide better security to the traveling commuters, women and general passengers in trains and passenger areas, Railways is supplementing the efforts of the State Government in controlling crime on Railways by deploying Railway Protection Force staff to escort about 1400 trains and by taking preventive measures as stated in reply to (c).

As and when requisitioned, necessary assistance is also being given to the State authorities by the Railway Authorities.